## IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended)     Method for monitoring one or more household appliances belonging to a same household environment and connected to a network, wherein at least one of the appliances includes an electronic control system having a microcontroller, memory means and interface means, the method being characterized by the following steps:

the electronic control system for a given appliance

- generating diagnostic information that is representative of the efficiency status of components of the household appliance and/or statistical information that is representative of the wear status of components of the household appliance,

- storing within said memory means said diagnostic and/or statistical information, and

- making the stored diagnostic and/or statistical information available on said network through said interface means; and

a monitoring device that interfaces with said network, the monitoring device

- selecting, collecting, ~~picking up, organizing and~~ storing and updating the diagnostic and/or statistical information available on said network from ~~said~~ each electronic control systems, and ~~device~~

- making said ~~organized~~ information explicit to a user or to other devices on or outside the network.

2. (previously presented)  Method, according to claim 1, wherein said electronic control system updates in time the diagnostic and/or statistical information stored within said memory means.

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3. (previously presented)  Method, according to claim 1, wherein said diagnostic information relates to the operation quality of the household appliance and components thereof, said operation quality being expressed through the value of a set of diagnostic parameters typical of the use of the household appliance.

4. (previously presented)  Method, according to claim 1, wherein said statistical information relates to a history of the use of the household appliance from a viewpoint of the performed operations and/or functions and/or usage procedures of the household appliance.

5.      canceled

6. (currently amended) Method, according to claim 1, further including said electronic control system generating, storing and making available on said network functional information that is representative of the current operating status of the household appliance, and

said monitoring device further selecting, collecting picking up, organizing and storing the functional information available on said network from said electronic controls systems, the monitoring device making said organized functional information explicit to a user or to other devices on or outside the network.

7.      canceled

8.      canceled

9. (currently amended)  Method, according to claim 1, wherein said monitoring device provides for storing and/or updating within its own memory means the diagnostic

and/or statistical information ~~picked up~~collected from said network, before making the information or portions thereof explicit.

10. (currently amended) Method, according to claim 6, wherein said monitoring device provides for storing and/or updating within its own memory means the diagnostic, statistical and/or functional information ~~picked up~~collected from said network, before making the information or portions thereof explicit.

11. (previously presented) Method, according to claim 1, wherein at least said diagnostic and/or statistical information are made explicit or transmitted outside the household environment.

12. (previously presented) Method, according to claim 11 wherein said diagnostic and/or statistical information are transmitted to a service and/or preventive maintenance center.

13. (previously presented) Method, according to claim 6, wherein the step of selecting is based on the type of information to be made explicit through said monitoring device.

14 – 18 canceled

19. (currently amended) System for monitoring one or more household appliances belonging to a same household environment and connected to a network, the system including

in at least one of the household appliances an electronic control system that generates and stores at least diagnostic information that is representative of

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the efficiency status of components of the household appliance and/or statistical information that is representative of the wear status of components of the household appliance, and making the stored diagnostic and/or statistical information available on the network through an interface; and

a monitoring device that interfaces with the network, the monitoring device selecting, collecting, ~~picking up, organizing and~~ storing and updating the diagnostic and/or statistical information available on the network from ~~the respective~~ each electronic control ~~systems~~ system and making the ~~organized~~ information explicit to a user or other device on or outside the network.


20.    canceled


21.    canceled


22. (previously presented)  System, according to claim 19, wherein said electronic control system updates in time the stored diagnostic and/or statistical information.


23. (previously presented)  System, according to claim 19, wherein said diagnostic information relates to the operation quality of said household appliance, said operation quality being expressed through the value of a set of diagnostic parameters typical of the use of the household appliance.


24. (previously presented)  System, according to claim 19, wherein said statistical information relate to a history of the use of the household appliance from a viewpoint of the performed operations and/or functions and/or the usage procedures.

25. (currently amended)  System, according to claim 19, wherein said electronic control system also generates functional information that is representative of the current operating status of the household appliance, and

said monitoring device selects, ~~picks up, organizes, and~~collects, stores and updates said functional information and makes said ~~organized~~ information explicit.


26.     canceled


27.     canceled


28. (previously presented)  System, according to claim 19, wherein said monitoring device includes a memory for storing the diagnostic and/or statistical information transmitted on said network.


29. (previously presented)  System, according to claim 28, wherein said monitoring device further includes a display device.


30. (previously presented)  System, according to claim 19, wherein said monitoring device includes  a transmission means for transmitting said stored information to a remote site.


31. (previously presented)  System, according to claim 28, wherein said monitoring device further includes interaction means for selecting the type of diagnostic and/or statistical information to be displayed on said display device.

32. (previously presented)  System, according to claim 30, wherein said monitoring device further includes  interaction means for activating the transmission of said stored information.

33. (previously presented)  System, according to claim 30, wherein said transmission means comprise a modem.

34.     canceled

35.     canceled

36. (previously presented) Method, according to claim 1, wherein the step of generating the diagnostic and/or statistical information for a given household appliance includes generating the diagnostic and/or statistical information from one or more of an electric oven, a dishwasher, a refrigerator a laundry washer, a freezer, a cooking hob, and an exhaust hood.

37. (currently amended) System, according to claim 19, wherein the <u>one or more</u> household appliances include one or more of an electric oven, a dishwasher, a refrigerator a laundry washer, a freezer, a cooking hob, and an exhaust hood.